not pay any heed to his complaint. Would the Government take any action on the complaint made by Members of Parliament in its capacity as Central Government? Secondly, has any company been closed on account of any such action?

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I do not want to make any comment on the allegation made by the hon. Member but I agree with his suggestion that the Central Pollution Board should also intervene in such matters. On the question of receiving any specific complaint from hon. Members, I would like to say that certainly action has been taken on it. There are certain examples.....(*Interruptions*).....

[*English*]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I share their concern absolutely and unequivocally and I can assure that some action has been taken and will be taken if any hon. Member brings to my notice any case of pollution.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAO-SAHEB TOPE: There are many industries which are running without any pollution treatment plants. I want to know whether Government is making it compulsory to put pollution treatment plants.

MR. SPEAKER: That is already done.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Many steps have been taken. The State Pollution Control Board has been advised. We are taking further steps in a manner to exercise greater control on industry.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: I want to know how many years back was it brought to the notice of the Government the fact that 18 industries have been polluting the atmosphere and during this period, what action the Government of India has taken in each case.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: The 17 high-polluting industries are not industrial units. These are industries. There is a List of 17 of them. Government has taken steps and a notification has been issued.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: What type of industries are they? You have to mention them. Don't try to evade the question. My question is categorical. The reply should be categorical.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: The question is categorical but scope is limited.

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: The hon. Minister should be honest to say that the information will be given.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: There are 17 industries which have been identified 1½ years ago. I am sorry I cannot give the exact date now. Action has been taken against these highly polluting industries and a notification has been issued and they have been given time and I assure the hon. Member that we shall do more about it.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### Water Borne Diseases

[*English*]

*289. DR. VISWANATHAM KANITHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WALFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the water borne diseases are on the increase in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to check the menace?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b)

The data received from the States/Union Territories on the major water borne diseases, viz. cholera, acute diarrhoeal diseases (including gastro-enteritis), Viral Hepatitis and Enteric Fever do not indicate an increasing trend of the incidence of these diseases in the country. However, constant vigilance is being maintained and State Govts/U.T. Administrations provided necessary assistance and advice as and when the need arises.

**National Commission for Women**

*291. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Commission for women;

(b) whether activities and national women's organisations are being consulted regarding framing of rules for the said commission; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) No decision has yet been taken regarding the constitution of National Commission for Women.

**Project "Towards Freedom"**

*292. DR. A. K. PATEL:

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGEHELA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) when was the project "Towards Freedom" taken up by the Indian Council of Historical Research;

(b) the amount spent so far on this project;

(c) when was the project expected to be completed;

(d) the number of volumes of the project which have since been printed; and

(e) when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) On 20th August, 1973.

(b) Rs. 188 lakhs.

(c) The Project was expected to be completed in 1980.

(d) One volume.

(e) By 31st March 1994.

[*Translation*]

**Welfare of Women and Children**

*293. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the new schemes under consideration of the Government for the welfare of women and children during the year 1991;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide special relief to the house-wives under the self employment scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) The Government is considering some new initiatives for the development of women and children. These include integrated programmes for the development of women, the establishment of a National Credit Fund for Women and the setting up of the office of the Commissioner for Women's Rights which will benefit all categories of eligible women including house-wives. The Integrated Child Development Scheme is being extended to cover adolescent girls in selected blocks.